



PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 05032-00011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| |) | |
| Erik Leonard Hoffman |) | Examiner: David C. Comstock |
| |) | |
| Serial No.: 10/037,318 |) | Art Unit: 3732 |
| |) | |
| Filed: November 7, 2001 |) | |
| |) | |
| Title: FASTENING ELEMENT FOR AN |) | |
| IMPLANT, IN PARTICULAR A HIP |) | |
| PROSTHESIS |) | |

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop RCE
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SEP 30 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed April 27, 2004. Kindly amend the above-referenced application as follows.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the claim listing, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK]